SCOTTDALE IRON & STEEL WORKS
Uptegraff Manufacturing Company
Uptegraff Drive
Scottdale
Westmoreland
Pennsylvania

HAER No. PA-297

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PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Engineering Record
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
P.O. Box 37127
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HISTORIC AMERICAN ENGINEERING RECORD

SCOTTDALE IRON & STEEL WORKS
Uptegraff Manufacturing Company

HAER No. PA-297

Location:	Uptegraff Drive, Scottdale, Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania
Date of Construction:	1873, 1894-7
Builder:	unknown
Present Owner:	Uptegraff Company
Present Use:	manufacture of utility transformers
Significance:	One of the earliest steel and iron works in Westmoreland County, the company produced iron and steel sheets and became a subsidiary of U.S. Steel in the early 20th century. Reborn as an electrical equipment production facility in the late 1930s, the Scottdale facilities became an important maker of industrial transformers for oil refineries and large institutions.
Project Information:	In February, 1987, the Historic American Engineering Record (HAER) and the Historic American Buildings Survey (HABS) began a multi-year historical and architectural documentation project in southwestern Pennsylvania. Carried out in conjunction with America's Industrial Heritage Project (AIHP), HAER undertook a comprehensive inventory of Westmoreland County to identify the region's surviving historic engineering works and industrial resources.
Compiler:	Gray Fitzsimons and Kenneth Rose, Editors

History

William H. Everson & Company operated the Scottdale Iron Works as early as the 1873. Located along Jacobs Creek, adjacent to the Charlotte Furnace Company and the National Foundry and Pipe Works, Everson's works produced sheet iron and steel. The works included a foundry and mill. The mill contained puddling furnaces, rolls for producing sheet iron, and annealing furnaces. By the 1890s the works was producing both iron and steel sheets. Its owners changed its name to the Scottdale Iron & Steel Works and in 1894-97 a new rolling mill was constructed where the foundry stood.

Soon after the formation of the United States Steel Corporation, a subsidiary firm, the American Sheet Steel Company was acquired. This concern purchased Everson's Scottdale Iron & Steel Works and by 1903 had expanded the plant with additional annealing furnaces and rolls. In addition to the Scottdale Works, American Sheet Steel Company also acquired the Meadows (rolling) Mill, built by Scottdale Iron & Steel in 1898 and located one mile south of Scottdale along Jacobs Creek. This mill also contained heating furnaces, rolls for sheet iron and steel production, and annealing furnaces. The Pennsylvania Railroad served both of these works. By 1910, U.S. Steel reorganized two of its many subsidiary firms, American Sheet Steel Company and American Tin Plate Company, forming the American Sheet & Tin Plate Company. This latter concern operated the Scottdale works through the 1920s. (The Meadow Mill was probably abandoned in the 1910s or early 1920s.)

American Sheet & Tin Plate Company closed its Scottdale works in the 1930s and was abandoned until the Uptegraff Manufacturing Company acquired the plant in 1938. The R.E. Uptegraff Manufacturing Company was founded by R.E. Uptegraff, Sr. in Pittsburgh. A transformer designer, first with the Westinghouse Company and later with the Pittsburgh Transformer Company, Uptegraff had founded his company in 1925. By the time Uptegraff acquired the site, only the main building, an auxiliary building totalling 300,000 square feet and two adjacent small frame buildings remained. Uptegraff employed twenty workers in 1939 and employed eighty-six workers by 1947. The company erected other manufacturing facilities at Terre Alta, West Virginia, in 1948, Somerset, Pennsylvania, in 1959, and Roanoke Rapids, North Carolina, in 1967. Uptegraff Manufacturing Company produces large scale electric transformers ranging in capacity from ten thousand watts to over ten million watts. These transformers serve diverse electrical functions and are used at oil refineries, supermarkets, schools, and hospitals.

The plant is bordered by the P&LE Railroad to the north and Jacobs Creek to the south. Rolling Mill: a tall one-story building with common-bond red-brick walls, concrete-block infill and metal siding; gable roof supported by riveted steel Fink trusses; monitor has been removed; interior structural steel frame structural system; multi-light windows; original DC-powered crane with original generators ca. 1900; large concrete-block addition. Annealing Building: a tall one-story structure, measuring 250' x 50'; common-bond red-brick walls with brick pilasters; multi-light arched windows with double brick voussoirs; ornate brick dentil work at eaves; riveted steel Fink trusses support a long-span gable roof; interior steel frame; original brick floor partially covered with concrete; overhead shafts for driving machinery remains in place along with a fifteen-ton Morgan overhead electric crane (ca. 1930); a number of concrete-block additions are covered with corrugated metal. Boiler House: a steel-frame building covered with metal siding; original coal-fired and gas-fired boilers removed. Security House: a small building with common-bond red-brick walls; gable roof; multi-light arched windows with double brick voussoirs. Hospital: a small one-story building with stretcher-bond red-brick walls; gable roof covered with asphalt; concrete foundation; the building features a bay window, a front porch, and a green tile cross at gable end. Office: a small one-and-a-half story Queen-Anne style building with red-brick stretcher-bond walls, partially painted green; mansard roof; corbeled brick chimneys; turret with wood shingles; ashlar stone foundation; a number of windows feature stained glass; arched windows with triple brick voussoirs and rock-faced ashlar sills; one-over-one-light double-hung windows; at the gable end a sign painted white reads "Scottdale Iron and Steel." The office interior contains original tin wall covering with floral and fleur-de-lis motifs; marble fireplace; wood floors.

The galvanizing department and the stock and ingot warehouse have been demolished. The buildings are now used by the Uptegraff Company for the production of utility transformers. The rolling mill is now the Uptegraff factory and the old Annealing Building is the galvanizing shop.

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